LETTERS

Write to SOUNDS, Spotlight House, 1 Benwell Road, London, N7 7AX

Purple rage, blue fits, fans see red.

'Lord, help us.'

I CAME home from Leicester last night feeling very depressed and disappointed. I had been looking forward to seeing Deep Purple for months, and I went along to the Granby Hall brimming over with excitement. But, alas, the feeling soon left me.

Gillan left the band, that broke my heart. Glover left, I almost cried — and their replacements were good enough to cheer me up again — David Coverdale and Glenn Hughes — "Purple are still alive!" I thought to myself. Then came an even bigger crunch — Blackmore left.

I thought they would never find another guitarist to take Ritchie's place — until I bought "Come Taste The Band". The replacement, Tommy Bolin, seemed to be red hot. "Saved again", I began to think — and — I earnestly looked forward to a Purple gig in the near future.

But it was not to be. If only T.B. had kept his place and had not dominated the stage! Poor David Coverdale, who has a brilliant voice, was off the stage half of the show. Why not call it the Tommy Bolin concert? Anyway, I went to see Deep Purple — not, to put too fine a point on it, a fairy prancing around and touching Glenn Hughes as if he was madly in love with him!

O.K. lads, you may only be joking, but I never thought Deep Purple would sink so low as to include such a sickening show as this, I always looked on you as "Gods of Rock" not a puff band. Prancing around may suit the likes of chart rubbish, but it certainly is not part of Deep Purple! Sorry, but after five years of being a devoted fan, I QUIT, or whatever else you would care to call it.

I'll blast my speakers out with 'In Rock', 'Machine Head' and 'Made in Japan' — I'll go back to the past, because if what I saw last night is the 'new' Deep Purple, I for one, will not be in their audiences in future. I'm sure many people who went will agree with me, judging by the shouts of 'Bring back Blackmore' during Tommy Bolin's solo spot.

I can't wait till Ritchie's Rainbow and the Ian Gillan Band tour Britain. I'm sure they'll give us some true rock. Jon Lord, Ian Paice and David Coverdale, get out while you can.

My Gods fell off their pedestal last night! — an ex. Purple fan.

I'VE JUST seen Deep Purple at Leicester's Granby Halls, and it was the worst gig I've ever been to. My God, it was just one long, boring Jam Session. Coverdale was only on stage for about half an hour, Bolin wasn't interested, and when he played his (pathetic) solo, he indulged in a slagging match with the crowd.

Long live Ritchie Blackmore, and the sooner he gets back on the road the better. The only good point of the gig was Jon Lord's solo, which the crowd seemed to appreciate. — 'fed up with Yanks', Nell the Shepherd, Pavenham, Beds.

AFTER SEEING their Wembley bash, I plead with Deep Purple to take the advice of one fan who cares for their future. Firstly, make sure the next album is up to the 'Come Taste the Band' standard, with Glenn Hughes showing a little more respect for David Coverdale by finally (if reluctantly) handing all vocals over to this excellent vocalist.

Next, — undertake an extensive tour, under a new name, completely ignoring any old Purple numbers as far as the act is concerned.

It's plain to see that Purple fans will never accept you for what you are not — Deep Purple. However, I'm sure they'll love you for what you are — an exciting new band. — Rock Fan, Nelson, Lancs.